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Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 8

Regular Meeting
Public House at OFV
10:00am

Thursday, October 13

Regular Meeting
Public House at OFV
10:00am

Wednesday, October 19

Annual Meeting
Library Meeting Room
6:00pm Meet and Greet
6:30pm Reports
7:00pm Guest Speaker
Tom Dueppen,
Hydrogeologist

Saturday, October 22

Lime Kiln Park
Fall River & Park Clean-Up
9:00am north entrance

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Monthly Meetings

of the Friends of Lime Kiln Park
Natural Area are held the
2nd Thursday of month
10am Public House at OFV

ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 19

What You Never Knew About Menomonee Falls and Lime Kiln Park

Members, friends and interested persons are invited to attend what promises to be a most interesting presentation.

Our speaker, Tom Dueppen, is a Hydrogeologist and has 15 years experience in his profession. He and his family are Menomonee Falls residents. Currently, Tom works for the Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department. We know you will have a memorable evening hearing and participating in his presentation titled, *Geomorphology of Lime Kiln Park: The Evolution of Menomonee Falls*.

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, October 19 at 6:30pm at the Menomonee Falls Public Library meeting room.

AS TOLD BY JIM UHRINAK, HERITAGE
LAND MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Why is Menomonee Falls Here?

I tagged along recently on a tour of Lime Kiln Park, led by Jim Uhrinak for the local Wild Ones chapter. But surprisingly, he started the tour, not in our park, but in the cemetery near Appleton and Roosevelt Avenues. From that high point in the village, one can see the tops of the tallest buildings in downtown Milwaukee. You can also see the direction Appleton Avenue takes toward the city. It does not point towards those high buildings, but further to the south, Jim surmises, to the mouth of the Milwaukee River.

Imagine that before any European settlers were here, Native Americans would have lived here. In fact, Jim feels that this
continued on back

SPRING TO FALL

Wildflower Discovery

Mother Nature cooperated on an early spring Saturday morning in May for a wildflower discovery stroll through the diverse areas of Lime Kiln Park.

Nancy Aten, ecological restoration consultant, guided the tour. The groups experienced and became knowledgeable about sedges, trees, and plants in this natural area located in the heart of Menomonee Falls.

This fall when walking through the park observe the “liana” (woody vines) character of the floodplain. Path edges in the northern area of the park reveal the Solomon plumes with their characteristic berries.

This colorful time of year, take note of the fruits on the shrubs and some plants—red, purple and blue. There are blooming goldenrods, asters, and sunflowers. Sedges fill the flat wet areas with their graceful, grasslike often arching stems.

We thank Nancy for providing and sharing her knowledge of our park so that we can respect, enjoy, and identify what makes Lime Kiln Park a unique river corridor natural area.





Friends

OF LIME KILN PARK
NATURAL AREA

Dave Voelz, President
N88 W15779 Park Blvd
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

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 Not Just Words

Visit our website

limekilnpark.org
262-853-1835

Wildflowers

We are the wayside flowers
 We grow and bloom anywhere
 In the fields, woods and on hillsides,
 We flourish without any care.
 If only the earth will feed us.
 If only the wind will be kind.
 If nature provides rain and sunshine,
 We will not be hard to find.
 We have no cares and no worries.
 We don't ever fret or fuss.
 We turn trusting faces to heaven
 And let God take care of us.

Anne Doyle

Why is Menomonee Falls Here?, *continued*

cemetery was likely also an Indian burial ground. But why did their highway (now our Appleton Avenue) go to the Milwaukee River? It has been shown that before there was a city there, that area was a major wild rice growing area and a major food source. Why did their highway (probably little more than a foot path at that time) also go to Menomonee Falls? What was so important to them here? The area around what is now Lime Kiln Park is thought to have also been a wild rice field. But, maybe more importantly, because of the water falls on the Menomonee River.

Before the Leper Dam was built on the river just north of Main Street, there was a water fall there. Fish, likely lake sturgeon migrating up the river, would have been stopped by the falls, and the pools below the falls would have been teeming with fish. There they could be easily harvested. So the native peoples simply used their highway to connect two important food centers.

Then, continuing northwest along Appleton Avenue, why does the highway take a distinct dogleg towards the west? Now where did these native people want to go? The Horicon Marsh was another large wild rice region, and these people regularly also traveled there during harvest time.

Now consider the direction the other highway in Menomonee Falls takes. Why does Main Street not point straight west? Because these Indians had no need for north, south, east or west. They simply traveled the most direct route to an important location. In this case, it was a portage path over the sub-continental divide between the Menomonee and the Fox Rivers.

So when the Europeans first came to Menomonee Falls, it was already an Indian village, "Fishing Place on the Menomonee." They continued to develop Main Street and Appleton Avenue the easiest way they could—along the Indian foot paths.

—Interpreted by
Dave Voelz

